[Mr. S. Krishna Pillai.]

would be in a position to appreciate correctly the position of Government. On the other hand, if I write to Government and get the information I want, it would be of help only to me personally.

PRESIDENT: In theory, Mr. Krishna Pillai, perhaps what you say is correct; but, at the moment, the Secretary does not seem to have the information you want.

Grant of monopoly for removal of ilmenite.

11. **MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any company enjoying any monopoly for working ilmenite from Travancore; and

(*b*) if so, whether any variation was made in the original grant and with what loss to Government?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Loss incurred by the punja cultivators in the Mavelikara and Kartikapalli taluks in 1104.

12. **MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any report has been prepared and submitted by the Land Revenue Commissioner about the loss caused to the *punja* cultivators of the Mavelikara and Kartikapalli taluks due to the untimely rains of 1104; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the date of the report and the orders passed thereon?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The 18th July 1929 and the 8th March 1930.

The Quilon Dewan Peishkar reported that though there was heavy loss to the cultivators, the damage was not so serious as to call for remission of taxes and that, further, the Remission Rules contemplated remission only in specified areas and were not applicable to the Mavelikara and Kartikapalli taluks. He was, therefore, of opinion that the best form of relief was by way of granting agricultural loans to the ryots who suffered heavy loss on account of the flood. The Land Revenue Commissioner, however, recommended remission of taxes as a special case to such of the *punja* cultivators in the above two taluks as had seriously suffered from failure of crops on account of the floods. But, as it was found that agricultural loans had been granted to sufferers, no further action was thought necessary in the matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): With reference to the answer to part (*c*), may I know the date on which the Government received the report of the Dewan Peishkar?

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MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Dewan Peishkar did not send up his report direct to Government. It is the Land Revenue Commissioner that forwarded to Government the report of the Dewan Peishkar along with his own report.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know why Government chose to act upon the report of the Peishkar in preference to that of the Land Revenue Commissioner?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In view of the fact that ordinarily remissions are not granted under the Rules.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know whether there is any particular reason for the Government preferring to go by the report of the Peishkar instead of by the report of the Land Revenue Commissioner.

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There does not seem to be any particular reason, so far as I can see.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): It is stated in the answer.

> "The Land Revenue Commissioner, however, recommended remission of taxes as a special case to such of the *punja* cultivators in the above two taluks as had seriously suffered. ..... But as it was found that agricultural loans had been granted to sufferers, no further action was thought necessary in the matter."

Am I to understand that these agricultural loans were granted before the Government received the report of the Land Revenue Commissioner?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Peishkar reported to the effect that it was open to the Government to grant loans to the sufferers. Reference was then made to the Land Revenue Commissioner as to whether any loans had been granted and, if so, the extent to which it had been done. When his report on the matter was received, Government considered the question and decided that no further action was called for.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Was it the opinion of Government that the loss suffered by the people was not sufficient for them to deserve any further consideration?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): They had been given one form of relief. Government thought that that was enough for the time being.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): If so, may I know why the Government called for a report as to the amount of loans granted?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government did not call for actual statements of the remission to be granted. The question as to whether such a statement should be called for or not was pending with the Government.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Was there any Government order to the effect that the ryots who had suffered loss should be given preference in the matter of agricultural loans?

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MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Then, may I know the relief or concession or special favour shown to these ryots ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : I did not say that Government showed them any special favour. It was found that they had been granted agricultural loans and the Government thought that that was enough.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) ; May I know whether the report of the Land Revenue Commissioner had no effect upon the Government ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) ; I am not in a position to answer that question as to the effect of the report of the Peishkar or of the Land Revenue Commissioner upon the Government.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : If the loans had been granted before the Government received the report of the Land Revenue Commissioner.....

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot say whether the loans were granted *before* the Government received the report of the Land Revenue Commissioner or *after* that.

Facilities for communication in certain pakuthies of the Kartikapalli taluk.

13. MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the action taken by them for giving greater facilities for communication to the people of Kandallur, Keerikad, Mutukulam and Chingoli pakuthies of the Kartikapalli taluk since the answer given to Mr. G. Raman Menon's interpellation, asked at the meeting of the Council, held on the 2nd December 1927 (*vide* page 104 of Vol. XII of the *Council Proceedings*) ; and

(*b*) whether any amount has been spent since then for increasing the facilities for communication in those pakuthies ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Rough estimates have been prepared for opening two roads (1) from 28/6, Quilon-Alleppey road to Vettattu *kadavu* and (2) from 30/5, Quilon-Alleppey road to Puthenparambil *kadavu* and the lines have also been pegged out by the P. W. Department. A detailed estimate has also been prepared for the road from the Kayankulam bazaar to Keerikad and thence to the backwater.

(*b*) No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : With reference to part (*a*), may I know the dates on which rough estimates for the two roads were prepared ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The estimate for the road from the 28th mile of the Quilon-Alleppey

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